

Dear Mr. Kehoe and Fellow Board Members,

A potential issue was brought to my attention this morning and I would like to address it immediately.

As you know, at the most recent Board of Education meeting in which I was nominated for the position of HPRHS board member, there were questions asked regarding my possible relation to anyone within the High Point community. I replied honestly, that I am not related to any employee at High Point or in any local school district. In addition to this answer and in the interest of transparency, I also shared that I do however, take part in the Leader 2 Leader program with two High Point administrators. As result, I would abstain from voting on anything that may be misconstrued as an ethics violation.

There is one additional member of the High Point community that I failed to mention simply because it did not cross my mind. There is a teacher at High Point that is an acting member on the Fredon Board of Education, where I am employed. I have never met this person and do not have any personal relationship with him whatsoever. In hindsight, I could see where this would be concerning to some and wanted to address it as soon as possible. Both morally and legally, I would abstain from voting on any issue that affected his employment in any way.

I have also been in contact with the Fredon Board of Education president and she is comfortable that they can manage the ethical issues on their end. They are not concerned about my service on the HPRHS BOE and in fact, believe that I would be an asset.

I apologize for this unintentional omission and would understand if you felt that my appointment to the board would hinder the progress of HPRHS BOE. I would not permit this "relationship" to interfere with my responsibilities as a board member and do hope that you consider allowing me to remain a member of the board of education.

Respectfully,
LeeAnn Smith

CC Eric Obernauer, NJ Herald
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